

## WOMEN IN THE CIVIL WAR

### In the North

**Clara Barton (1821-1912)** – a surgical assistant at the Second Battle of Bull Run, Fairfax Court House, Fredericksburg, Antietam, and the Wilderness, she came to be known as the “Angel of the Battlefield.” She became a co-founder of the American Red Cross in 1881.



Clara Barton circa 1866. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Clarabartonwcbbrady.jpg>>

**Elizabeth Blackwell (1821-1910)** – the first American woman to earn a medical degree, she was an active champion of abolition and women’s rights who organized the Woman’s Central Association of Relief, training nurses for service in the war



Elizabeth Blackwell. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth\\_Blackwell](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_Blackwell)>

**Anna Ella Carroll (1815-1894)** – a highly intelligent Marylander who freed her own slaves after Lincoln’s election, she became a close advisor to President Lincoln following publication of her pamphlet supporting Lincoln’s calling up of state militias and suspending habeas corpus



Anna Ella Carroll, 1815-1894. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Anna\\_Ella\\_Carroll.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Anna_Ella_Carroll.jpg)>

**Pauline Cushman (1833-1893)** – a Southern-born actress, she became a Union spy and was captured by the forces of General Braxton Bragg and sentenced to death but was rescued when Union troops took the area (Her real name was Harriet Wood.)



Pauline Cushman. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Pauline\\_Cushman.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Pauline_Cushman.jpg)>

**Dorothea Dix (1802-1887)** – appointed Superintendent of Union Army Nurses, she gained both respect and disdain for directing her nurses to care for both Union and Confederate wounded



Dorothea Dix. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Dix-Dorothea-LOC.jpg>>

**Annie Etheridge (1839-1913)** – enlisting in the Union Army at 17 as “Daughter of the Regiment,” she served as a courageous nurse always just behind the line of battle, ready to ride out on her horse to bring back a wounded man to care for

**Hamilton-George, Eliza (1808-1865)** – Mother-in-law of Colonel Sion Bass who led Fort Wayne’s first Civil War regiment and fell at Shiloh and a citizen of Fort Wayne, Indiana, she served the Union as a nurse in the Indiana Sanitary Commission. Because she placed the soldiers who received her ministrations before herself, the men came to call her “Mother George.” She died of typhoid fever a month after Lee’s surrender.

**Jennie Hodgers (1844-1915)** – an Irish immigrant, she enlisted in the Union Army in 1862 under the name Albert D. J. Cashier



Albert D. J. Cashier. Wikipedia. 18 July. 2008.  
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Albert-Cashier.jpg>>

**Julia Ward Howe (1819-1910)** – author of “The Battle Hymn of the Republic,” published in 1862 in the *Atlantic*



Julia Ward Howe. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:JuliaWardHowe.jpg>>

**Elizabeth Van Lew (1818-1900)** – a Union spy, she organized a network of couriers and even successfully placed a spy in the Confederate White House



Elizabeth Van Lew. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Evanlew.jpg>>

**Mary Todd Lincoln (1818-1882)** – wife of Abraham Lincoln, who – though born in Kentucky, a border state – encouraged her husband’s political career and did much for Civil War wounded and veterans



Mary Todd Lincoln. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:MTLincoln.jpg>>

**Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811-1896)** - author of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, she had witnessed slavery and worked with the Underground Railroad.



Harriet Beecher Stowe. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Beecher-Stowe.jpg>>

**Susie King Taylor (1848-1912)** – born a slave, she became a nurse in the Civil War but gained greater fame as a teacher of African Americans – both children and adults – who had been denied an education by law while they were slaves

**Harriet Tubman (1820-1913)** – after years as a “conductor” on the Underground Railroad, during the Civil War she acted as a Union spy



<Harriet Tubman, circa 1880. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Harriet\\_Tubman.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Harriet_Tubman.jpg)>

**Sarah E. Thompson (1838-1909)** – Both before and after her husband died in the war, she delivered Union dispatches and promoted recruitment.

**Sarah Rosetta Wakeman (1843-1864)** – disguised as a man (Private Lyons Wakeman), she enlisted as a private in the Union Army and gave her life in battle

**Mary Walker (1832-1919)** – one of the first American women to earn a medical degree, she volunteered to work in the field hospitals of the Union Army. Though denied a commission, she rose to the position of assistant surgeon in the 52<sup>nd</sup> Ohio Infantry. She was held in a Confederate prison for several months. She was the first woman to win the Medal of Honor though it was revoked – along with those awarded to all other non-combatants – in 1917 and finally restored posthumously in 1977.



Mary Walker. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Mary\\_Edwards\\_Walker.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Mary_Edwards_Walker.jpg)>

For more information about women soldiers in the Civil War, click on

<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1993/spring/women-in-the-civil-war-1.html>

### In the South

**Belle Boyd (1843-1900)** – perhaps the most famous Confederate spy, she served as a courier for General P. T. G. Beauregard, carrying in dispatches, delivering supplies, and even confiscating weapons



Belle Boyd. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Belle\\_Boyd.jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Belle_Boyd.jpg)>

**Mary Chestnut (1823-1886)** – the most famous diarist of the Civil War, she is recognized as the greatest Confederate author and an invaluable source of information on the political and social realities of the South and the war



Mary Chestnut. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Marychestnut.jpg>>

**Kate Cumming (1828-1909)** – Her field diary, *A Journal of Hospital Life in the Confederate Army of Tennessee, from the Battle of Shiloh to the End of the War*, offers insight into the role of field nurses in the Confederacy

**Varina Howell Davis (1826-1905)** – devoted wife of President Jefferson Davis, she seems to have inspired suspicions of undue influence over her husband (just as her counterpart, Mary Todd Lincoln did)



Varina Howell Davis. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008.  
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:VHowellDavis.jpg>>

**Antonia Ford (1838-1871)** – while Union officers used her home as headquarters, she gathered information which she passed on to General JEB Stuart

**Rose O'Neal Greenhow (1817-1864)** – a Confederate spy living in Washington, D.C. She delivered valuable intelligence pertinent to the First Battle of Bull Run. She was caught, imprisoned, and later released before going to Europe to raise support for the Confederacy there.



Rose O'Neal Greenhow with Her Youngest Daughter and Namesake, "Little Rose," at the Old Capitol Prison, Washington, DC, 1862. Wikipedia. 18 July 2008. <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:04849v.jpg>>

**Nancy Hart (1846-1902)** – a Confederate guerilla in the Moccasin Rangers, she became a scout, guide, and spy, serving as a courier between generals

**Sally Louisa Tompkins (1833-1916)** – a tireless caregiver to the Confederate wounded, she was the first – and only – woman commissioned as an officer in the Confederate Army. The survival rate in her hospital in Richmond approached 95%